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QUARTERLY JOURNAL

OF THE

STATISTICAL SOCIETY.

JUNE, 1854.

Twentieth Anniversary Meeting of the Statistical Society. Session 1853-54.

[Held at No. 12, St. James's Square, London, Wednesday, 15th March, 1854.]

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL FITZWILLIAM, K.G., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

The Secretary read the following Report of the Council on the progress of the Society during the past year:—

Report of the Council.

THE Council of the Statistical Society are happy to be able to meet the Fellows, at this their Twentieth Anniversary Meeting, with congratulations on the highly satisfactory condition of the Society's affairs.

Though the Society has, since the last Report, sustained unusual losses by deaths and by resignations, the new elections, which have amounted to thirty-two in number, have left a slight balance in its favour.

In reference to the financial condition of the Society, the Council are in a condition to repeat the satisfactory statement of last year, "that all its sources of income for the past year exhibit an increase over the corresponding items in the account of the previous year."

The subscriptions and compositions for the year ending 31st December last exceed the very large receipts of the previous year by 15l.; the sale of the Journal is in excess of the same source of income for the same year by 20l.; while the very satisfactory arrangement with the Institute of Actuaries, which was alluded to in the last Report, has added a new source of income to the amount of 75l. From these three sources the Society has added to its receipts to the extent of nearly 110l. By the arrangement with the Institute of Actuaries, the expenditure of the Society in one or two material items is also economized.

The Council would especially invite the attention of the Fellows to the increasing sale of the Journal, as affording an indication of the growing estimation in which the Society is held. In 1851, the Society derived from the sale of its Journal a sum of 50l.; in 1852,

the receipts amounted to 701.; and in the last year to 901. The Council have reason to believe that the publication of the Index to the first fifteen volumes, to which a more lengthened allusion will presently be made, will lead to a still further augmentation of this

branch of the Society's receipts.

On the side of the expenditure, the financial transactions of the Society for the past year are equally satisfactory, though they stand in need of some explanation. The current ordinary expenditure of the year slightly exceeded 700l., and fell short of the current income by upwards of 200l. After defraying the usual current expenses, the Council were able to discharge a liability for printing the Journal for three-quarters of a year, amounting to 182l. 5s. 9d., and a smaller liability of 10l. 7s. for stationery, as well as to vote a sum of 25l. on account of the General Index. Owing to these causes, the total payments of the year 1853 slightly exceeded the income of the year.

The Council are happy to state, that on the 1st of January, of the present year, the Society had but one liability, being a sum owing for printing the Journal, to the amount of 135l. 2s. 9d. That liability has been since discharged; and as there is good reason to calculate on the income for the year 1854 exceeding the current expenditure by upwards of 200l., the Council hope to be able to congratulate the Fellows, at their next anniversary meeting, not only on having commenced the current year free from debt, but on possessing a surplus, to devote to the extension and improvement of the library, to original

inquiries, or to other purposes of importance.

The Council, indeed, have already devoted a portion of the funds at their disposal to a highly useful purpose, of which mention was made in their Report of last year. They allude to the General Index to the first fifteen volumes of the Journal. This useful work they have entrusted to the able and practised hands of Mr. Wheatley, the bibliographer and librarian. The Index is now passing through the press, and will shortly be published. The Council have made arrangements for supplying the work to the Fellows at a moderate cost; and they anticipate such a demand for it as will enable them to defray the expense of its publication, without incurring any fresh liability.

The additions made to the library during the past year are considerable. They comprise a second collection of books from Dr. Edward Jarvis, of Dorchester, Massachusetts; a donation of upwards of fifty volumes of standard Italian and French works, presented by Signor Fabrizio Fabiani, of Genoa; and a valuable and complete collection of documents, comprising the Statistics of the kingdom of Sardinia, from Signor G. Flechia, Librarian and Keeper of the Archives of the Senate of the kingdom of Sardinia, presented through the medium of Colonel Sykes. The Council have also authorized the expenditure of a larger sum than usual for the improvement of the library, which sum has been devoted chiefly to the completion of sets of valuable statistical works of reference. Among the works so completed, may be mentioned "The Annual Register" and the "Annales d'Hygiène et de Médecine Légale;" and among the works which have been brought nearly to a state of completion, the

Financial Accounts of the United Kingdom. A few scarce early numbers of this valuable official series are still wanting.

Since the last anniversary meeting, eight communications have been read and discussed. Colonel Sykes, whose temporary absence the Council have had great reason to regret, has added to his valuable series of communications on Indian Statistics a paper on the Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice in British India; Mr. Neison has contributed a very complete analytical view of Railway Accidents, of which the first part has already appeared in the pages of the Journal; and Dr. Guy has extended his short series of financial papers by a communication on the Immediate and Remote Effect of the Remission of Customs and Excise Duties on the Productiveness of those branches of the Revenue. The Society is indebted to Mr. Thomas Beggs for an interesting communication on Freehold Land Societies; and to Mr. Samuel Paull, for furnishing the occasion of an animated discussion on the important subject of Agricultural The department of Vital Statistics has been illustrated by two communications, the one from Dr. Guy, on the Duration of Life among Medical Men; the other by Dr. A. S. Thomson, on the Physical Developments of the New Zealand Race of Men.

One communication made to the Society since the last anniversary meeting is deserving of special mention. The Council allude to the Résumé, by Mr. Leone Levi, of the Proceedings of the Statistical Congress, held at Brussels, in the Autumn of 1853. This résumé, which was presented to the Society at their first meeting of the present session, and which is printed in the last number of the Society's Journal, gives a very complete account of the proceedings of that interesting and important Congress. The Statistical Society of London was represented on that occasion by Viscount Ebrington, one of its members; Mr. Farr, who was charged with the duty of representing an important department of the Government, Mr. Leone Levi, and other Fellows of this Society, were also present, and took part in the deliberations of the Congress. An opportunity having been thus afforded to members of the Society to form a personal acquaintance with distinguished statists from all the leading states of Europe, a considerable addition has been made to our list of Foreign Honorary Members. The following are the names which the Fellows, acting on the recommendation of the Council, have added to the list:—

- M. LE BARON DE CZOERNIG, Chef de Section au Ministère du Commerce et des Travaux Publics, and Directeur de la Statistique Administrative, at Vienna.
- M. F. G. DE HERMANN, Conseiller au Ministère des Finances, at Munich.
- M. Bergsof, Professeur d'Economie Politique et Chef du Département de la Statistique, at Copenhagen.
- M. Alfred Legoyt, Chef du Bureau de Statistique Générale de France, au Ministère de l'Agriculture, du Commerce, et des Travaux Publics.
- M. CHARLES MITTERMAIER, Conseiller intime, and Professeur à l'Université de Heidelberg.
- M. CHARLES GUILLAUME ASHER, Docteur en Droit, at Hamburg.
- M. DE BAUMHAUER, Chef du Bureau de Statistique, au Ministère de l'Intérieur, at the Hague.
- M. D'AVILA, Ministre d'Etat honoraire et Député des Cortès, Portugal.
- M. Ernest Engel, Chef du Bureau de Statistique Générale, at Dresden.
- M. BERNARDIN BERTINI, Deputy to the Sardinian Parliament at Turin.
- M. MARC D'ESPINE, Docteur en Médecine, at Geneva.

The name of Signor Fabrizio Fabiani, of Genoa, whose liberal donation to the library has been already mentioned, has also been proposed for addition to the list of Corresponding Members.

On the other hand, the list of Foreign Honorary Members is unhappily diminished by the decease of M. Hoffman, President of

the Statistical Bureau at Berlin.

The Council also announce with much regret the loss which they have recently sustained of the services of Mr. F. G. P. Neison, as one of the Honorary Secretaries; but though the state of his health and his numerous engagements do not allow of his giving the Society the benefit of his co-operation in an official capacity, the Council trust that they shall continue to profit by those valuable communications for which they are already so largely indebted to him. The vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Mr. Neison has not yet been filled up.

The President addressed the meeting at some length on the subject of the Report, and in the course of his remarks expressed a hope that the improved state of its finances would enable the Society, at no very distant period, to resume its original investigations. He had examined the plan of the General Index referred to in the Report, and he highly approved it.

Mr. Hodge moved, and Dr. Camps seconded, the adoption of the Report, together with the Abstract of Receipts and Expenditure.

Dr. Guy moved, and the Right Hon. Holt Mackenzie seconded, and it was Resolved,

That clause 7 of the Regulations of the Society shall stand

7. All yearly payments are due in advance on the 1st of January, and if any Fellow of the Society have not paid his subscription before the 1st of July, he shall be applied to in writing by the Secretaries, and if the same be not paid before the 1st of January of the second year, a written application shall again be made by the Secretaries, and the Fellow in arrear shall cease to receive the Society's publications, and shall not be entitled to any of the privileges of the Society until such arrears are paid; and if the subscription be not discharged before the 1st of February of the second year, the name of the Fellow thus in arrear shall be exhibited as a defaulter on a card suspended in the Meeting Rooms; and if, at the next Anniversary Meeting, the amount still remain unpaid, the defaulter shall be announced to be no longer a Fellow of the Society, the reason for the same being at the same time assigned. No Fellow of the Society can withdraw his name from the Society's books, unless all arrears be paid; and no resignation will be deemed valid unless a written notice thereof be communicated to the Secretaries. No Member shall be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Society until he shall have paid his subscription for the current year.

A ballot was then taken for the President, Council, and Officers for the year ensuing, and the following was declared to be the List:—

President.

The Right Hon. Charles William, Earl Fitzwilliam, K.G., F.R.S.

Council.

James Bird, M.D. The Right Hon. Holt Mackenzie, F.G.S. Sir John P. Boileau, Bart., F.R.S. *Horace Mann, Esq. Lord Alfred Churchill William Newmarch, Esq. John Towne Danson, Esq. William Drummond Oswald, Esq. *Viscount Ebrington The Right Hon. Lord Overstone William Farr, Esq. The Right Rev. The Lord Bishop of The Right Hon. Charles William, Earl Oxford, F.R.S., V.P.A.S. Fitzwilliam, K.G., F.R.S. *The Right Hon. Sir J. Somerset Paking-J. W. Gilbart, Esq., F.R.S. ton, Bart., M.P. The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P. Benjamin Phillips, Esq., F.R.S. William Augustus Guy, M.B. Sir G. Staunton, Bart., M.P., F.R.S. *The Right Hon. The Earl of Harrowby Lieut.-Colonel W. H. Sykes, F.R.S. James Heywood, Esq., M.P., F.R.S. Sir J. Emerson Tennent Thomas Hodgkin, M.D. Thomas Tooke, Esq., F.R.S. *Joseph Hume, Esq., M.P., F.R.S. Lord Harry George Vane *Charles Jellicoe, Esq. Lord Wodehouse William Golden Lumley, Esq. Rev. E. Wyatt-Edgell

* Those marked thus are New Members.

Treasurer.

Benjamin Phillips, Esq., F.R.S.

Honorary Secretaries.

William Drummond Oswald, Esq. William Augustus Guy, M.B.

Lord Overstone, on rising to move a vote of thanks to the noble Chairman, took occasion to refer to the services which Earl Fitz-william had rendered to the Society, not only during the past year, but during his former tenure of the same office; as well as to the great benefits which he had conferred on statistical science, by contributing to obtain its recognition, as a distinct branch of science, at one of the early meetings of the British Association. After some observations to the same effect had been offered by Colonel Sykes, who, as one of the original founders of the Society, bore testimony to Earl Fitz-william's zealous exertions on behalf of statistical science at a time when the meaning of the term statistics was scarcely understood, and its objects imperfectly appreciated; the motion was seconded by Dr. Camps.

The motion having been put to the vote, was carried unanimously; and after a few words of acknowledgment from the noble Chairman, the meeting adjourned.

Abstract of Receipts and Expenditure for the Year ended the 31st of December, 1853.

| RECEIPTS. £ 8. d. | EXPENDITURE. £ 8. d. |
|--|--|
| Balance brought forward fineluding Postry Cash Balance) 75 0 9 | Rent |
| 18 18 0 | • |
| Subscriptions for the Current Year, 286 at 2 guineas 6 10 12 0 | (Printing (13 year) £405 7 6) |
| . 27 11 2 | Journal Advertising (14 year) 23 0 9 435 1 7 |
| . 90 11 0 | (Delivering 6 13 4) |
| . 105 0 0 | Library |
| Institute of Actuaries (half sha e of Rent) | Stationery and Printing (12 year) 46 19 7 |
| | |
| | Firing |
| | Lighting |
| | Ordinary Meetings 15 6 4 |
| | General Index, on account |
| | Miscellaneous 25 4 8 |
| | |
| | balance of Putty Cash) 68 8 10 |
| 11 21 2883 13 11 | 11 21 2663 |
| 1863. Jan. 1. Balance brought down 68 8 10 | |

Balance Sheet of Assers and Liabilities on the 31st of December, 1853.

| £ 8 d. 68 8 10 | Printer (å year) 123 12 6 |
|--|---|
| Stock, 34 per Cent., Reduced £669 17s. 0d., cost | Stationer |
| £990 2 10 | 2990 2 10 |
| | Examined and approved— , Rev. E. Wearn, Ergert, V. P.) |
| | (Signed) J. HILL WILLIAMS, Auditors. |
| | 12, St. James's Square, London, 28th January, 1854. |